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NOTES IN SEASON.

THE end of the old year—a happy new one! THERE is no "season"—it is ended; the only notes in season are business ones; the only new books are the ledgers for 1879.

THE reports of Christmas trade, so far as it is possible to generalize, show a business about or nearly equal to last year. It is said that retail trade at the West has been somewhat interfered with by the extreme cold—an opposite difficulty from the mud blockade of last year.

THE "AMERICAN CATALOGUE:" GOOD WORDS.

I HAVE the specimen sheet of "The American Catalogue" by this mail. It is very handsome. I shall not fail to urge librarians and literary men to subscribe. The volume which is to contain the subject-index will alone be worth the price of subscription as a labor-saving hand-book of reference to librarians, book dealers, and book-buyers. Please send another copy in addition to the Catalogue already subscribed for. A. R. SPOFFORD, Librarian of Congress.

I WISH the basis of the work could have been what I used to think it would be—a reproduc tion with revisions and additions of all the titles in Roorbach and Kelly with continuation since, in one alphabet-in short, an American Kayser from 1820-but I am thankful for the work as it stands, which is a great credit to the skill and industry of those engaged on it. F. B. PERKINS,

W.

Boston Pub. Library.

It may be stated that there were two sufficient difficulties in the way of the plan originally suggested by Mr. Perkins: that the information in those catalogues could not be verified and completed for present use except at unwarrantable outlay; that to cover any period but the present in any adequate manner would, with comparatively little additional service to the trade, have made the enterprise financially hopeless.-ED.]

No one who has anything to do with bookswhether he is a bookseller, a book-buyer, or a book-reader—can have failed to feel the need of just such a book as this. The "Trade List Annual," issued by the same publisher, did something, but after all not much, to supply the need. We have occasion to consult such a book as Mr. Leypoldt is now printing nearly every day, and sometimes many times a day. He is entitled, therefore, to our hearty thanks, and to those of the hundreds to whom such a reference-book will be, as it is to us, a sine qua non for their work.

The second volume will give an alphabetical list of books arranged by subjects, which will be an appropriate supplement to the first volume, and will be the more useful of the two to the general reader and buyer. We cordially recommend the work to all our readers who have occasion for the use of such a book. public library, no bookseller, and no large private buyer of books can afford to do without it .- Examiner.

HAVING had our copy of the Catalogue in almost daily use for several weeks, we desire to say a few words in its praise, hoping it may induce some other of the many small retail booksellers to subscribe (and pay for it), feeling confident they will not regret it.

To illustrate its usefulness, allow us to mention a few facts:

Soon after we received our copy, a lady from another county (visiting friends here) called at our store and asked for a book written by J. Burroughs, having forgotten the title; and there being several authors of that name, we could not recall their works, but turning to our Catalogue, a real "friend in need," we soon came to "Winter Sunshine," by J. Burroughs, received her order, cash in advance, to our mutual joy and profit.

Again: to-day a gentleman asked the price of work by —— Baker. Turning again to our a work by friendly helper, we found "Point Lace and Diamonds" amid four columns of Bakers, at \$1, \$1.50, and \$3, and secured another order, both of which we might have lost but for the Cata-

We refer to it oftener than we do to "Webster's Unabridged," and our only regret is that we have not the complete work; our wonder is that it does not cost more, and if we could not replace our present copy, we would not part with it for twice its cost.

Trusting your reward may be equal to the merits of your great work, and wishing you success in its speedy completion, we remain, BARBER & WHITCOMB.

Norwich, N. Y., Nov. 20, 1878.

AUCTION SALES.

Friday and Saturday, Dec. 27, 28, 3:30 P.M.: —Miscellaneous books, good library eds., early Americana, theology, bibliography, etc. Bangs.

WEEKLY RECORD OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

In this list, the titles in brevier are direct transcriptions from books actually received, according to the rules of the American Library Association; those in nonparcil are from the best information available, and will be repeated in brevier when the book is received for registry.

The notes followed by a number are those which are sent out on printed title-slips, as revised by the Library Association authorities; unless bracketed, which means that they have not yet been so revised. Those not followed by a number are on the sole authority of the WREKLY, and are not included in the title-slip registry.

Sizes are designated as follows: F. (folio: over 30 centimeters high): Q. (4to: under 30 cm.): O. (8vo: 25 cm.); D. (12mo: 20 cm.); S. (15mo: 17½ cm.); T. (24mo: 15 cm.); Tl. (32mo: 12½ cm.); Fe. (48mo: 10 cm.). Sq., obl., nar., designate square, oblong, narrow books of these heights. Where figure instead of letter symbols are used, the record is from publisher's designation, and not measurement.

Imported books are marked with an asterisk; authors' and subscription books, or books published at net prices, with two asterisks: educational books published at "wholesale" prices, with a dagger.

Alden, Mrs. Is. M. ["Pansy."] Sidney Martin's Christmas. Bost., Lothrop. 600 p. il. 16°. \$1,50.

Anderson-Maskel, Mrs. A. E. C. Four feet, wings and fins. Bost., Lothrop, 4°. cl., \$1.75; gilt, \$2; bds., \$1.25. Animals. Bost., Lothrop, il. 16°. bds., 25°c.

Baby's scrap-book. Bost., Lothrop, il. 4°. flex., 25 c.

Bedell, G. T. The Canterbury pilgrimage, to and from the Lambeth conference and the

and from the Lambeth conference and the Sheffield congress. N. Y., A. D. F. Randolph & Co., 1878. 6 + 230 p. S. cl., \$1.25. Chiefly an account of the doings of the sessions of the Lambeth conference of bishops of the Church of England and associated churches, called together this year by the Archbishop of Canterbury; the story of the journey there and back, scenes visited on the way, and interesting incidents and other data. By the Bishop of Ohio.

Besant, Walter, and Rice, Ja. 'Twas in Trafalgar's bay: a story. N. Y., Harper, 1879. 5-165 p. Tt. (Harper's half-hour ser., no. 90.)

About smugglers and sea-fights, with a romantic episode of a woman's love interwoven; takes place at the heginning of the century.

Bevier, R. S. History of the first and second Missouri confederate brigades, 1861-1865; [also] From Wakarusa to Appomattox: military anagraph. St. Louis, Bryan, Brand & Co., 1879. 507 p. 4 por. O. cl., \$2.50.

Branch, Mary L. B., and others. Tyrant Tom, and other stories. Bost., Lothrop. il. 16°. bds., 35 c.

Breckinridge, Julia. In dead earnest. N. Y., Authors' Pub. Co., 1878. 239 p. sq. D. cl., \$1.25.

An American novel; heroine comes as a little girl from the South to live with Quaker relatives in Philadelphia; the trials of her youth and her love affairs form the story.

Brine, Mary D., and Perry, Nora. Midget's baby, and other stories. Bost., Lothrop, il. 16°. bds., 35 c.

Brinkley, Mrs. Hugh. A woman's thoughts about men. N. Y., Derby Bros., 1879. 12°. 50 c.

Butterworth, H. H., and others. Robin Hood's miracle, and other stories. Bost., Lothrop, il. 16°. bds.,

Calkins, Norman A., and Diaz, Mrs. A. M. Prang's natural hist. ser. for children. Bost., L. Prang & Co., 1878. Nos. 1-6. col. pl. O.

flex., ea., 50 c.

Cont.:—Wading birds, 16 p.—Cat family, 18 p.—Birds of prey, 17 p.—Swimming birds, 16 p.—Scratching birds, 16 p.

Each gives an informing description, in home conversation, of the class and its representative animals, with one full-page and twelve smaller colored figures.

Cheever, H: T. Autobiography and memorials of Ichabod Washburn. Bost., Lothrop. 16°. \$1.

Church, Ella R., and Conger, Catherine. Katy's adventures, and other stories. Bost., Lothrop. il. 16°. bds., 35 C.

Cook, Joel. [" J. C."] A holiday tour in Europe, described in a ser. of letters for the Public Ledger, during the summer and autumn of 1878. Phil., Lippincott, 1879. 310 p. D.

cl., \$1; pap., 75 c.
Letters from England, Wales, Ireland, Scotland, France, Belgium, Rhenish Germany, Switzerland, etc., descriptive of a three months' tour; author, one of the editors of Public Ledger.

Cornell, W: M. History of Pennsylvania, from the earliest discovery to [1878]. Phil., Quaker City Pub. Co., 1878. 8°. cl., \$3.50; hf. mor., \$4.25; shp., \$4.50.

Orawford, Mrs. H. L. Linda; or, über das Heilige Vaterunser (Das) illust. u. ausgelegt

Meer. N. Y., Authors' Pub. Co., 1878. 230

p. sq. D. cl., \$1.25.
An account of a little girl's travels with her mother, brother and sister in Germany; her studies, the opera, a German Christmas, a passion play, pictures, scenery, etc., described.

De Kay, C: The Bohemian: a tragedy of modern life. N. Y., C: Scribner's Sons, [1878.] 4 + 107 p. S. cl., \$1.

[New York story; hero, cashier in dry-goods store and member of Bohemian club of Expressionists; loves fashion-able girl; scenes from club life and society; caricatures of artists and literary men.]

Douglas, Amanda M. Our wedding gifts. N. Y., Authors' Pub. Co., 1878. 214 p. sq. D. \$1.

The story of a fashionable marriage; an amusing and realistic picture of the sad results accruing from a multiplicity of wedding presents.

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Gilder, R: Watson. The poet and his master, and other poems. N. Y., C: Scribner's Sons, 1878. 67 p. il. D. cl., \$1.25.

[33 short poems; titles of a few: A song of early summer; A midsummer song; On the wild rose tree; A song of early autumn; The poet's protest; To Modjeska; Decoration-day; A woman's thought; Keats; Love and death. The volume is decorated with floral designs, representing the spirit of the poems, and is bound in imitation of brass clamping.] clamping.]

Guizot, F. P. G. History of England. 4 v. N.Y., Gates & Co., 1878. 12°. \$6.

Hale, E: E. Mrs. Merriam's scholars: story of one of the "original ten." Bost., Roberts Bros., 1878. 269 p. S. cl., \$1.
Sequel to "Ten times one is ten"—the experiences in the world of four of Mrs. Merriam's scholars, and their loyalty to the mottoes of their order.

Hale, Lucretia P., ed. Plain needle-work, knitting and mending for all, with instruction in plain sewing, manage-ment of classes, etc. Bost., S. W. Tilton & Co. 50 c.

Hale, Lucretia P., ed. Art needlework: guide to embroidery in crewels, silks, etc., with instruction as to stitching; [also] short hist. of embroidery. Bost., S. W. Tilton & Co. 12°. 50 c.

Hamilton, Kate W., and Farman, Ella. Prue's pocket-book, and other stories. Bost., Lothrop, il. 16⁶. bds., 35 C.

Hardy, T: The return of the native. N. Y., Holt, 1878. 10 + 465 p. S. (Leisure hour ser.,

no. 103.) cl., \$1.

Story of a remote, obscure English hamlet, and the return of one of its natives who has been living in Paris; he is the centre of a singular love experience with a tragical ending. Full of local color; scenes and characters new in fiction; introducing country types and strange employments and customs now obsolete. A map of the supposed scene and customs now obs of the novel prefaces.

Hatheway, Mary E. N. Johnny's vacations, and other stories. Bost., Lothrop, il. 16°. \$1.

Hay, Mary Cecil. The sorrow of a secret: a story. N. Y., Harper, 1879. 6-112 p. Tt. (Harper's half-hour ser., no. 28.) pap., 15 c. A simple, pathetic little love tale, with a happy ending, of Devonshire, England.

Hay, Mary Cecil, Robinson, F. W., and McCarthy, Justin. Lady Carmichael's will, and other Christmas stories. N. Y., Harper, 1879. 5-117 p. Tt. (Harper's half-hour ser., no. 89.) pap., 15 c.

Gottes lieben Kindern zu nutz u. frommen. Allentown, Pa., Brobst, Diehl & Co., 1878. 28 p. sq. O. pap., 15 c.

Hempstead, Fay. Random arrows. [Poems.]

Phil., Lippincott, 1878. 132 p. cl., \$1. Short poems, entitled Tantalus, Dombey's dream, Remember, love, The standard-bearer, Estenoza, Strewing the graves, My love and I, The wrangler, Mount Holly, Danetc. etc.

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Holmes, Oliver Wendell. John Lothrop Mot-ley: a memoir. Bost., Houghton, Osgood & Co., 1879. 7 + 278 p. por. D. cl., \$1.50. Biography of the celebrated historian and writer; account

of his college life, study and travel in Europe, first novels, his diplomatic services, his historical works, how written and critically considered, and interesting personal details of his private life; also full history of his recall from England as Minister from the U. S., etc. etc. Appendix with additional information of death, etc.

Hurd, C. E., and others. Kitty's Christmas, and other stories. Bost., Lothrop, il. 16°. bds., 35 c.

Jacques, D. H. The temperaments; or, the varieties of physical constitution of man considered in their rel. to mental character and practical affairs of life, etc.; with introd. by H. S. Drayton. N. Y., S. R. Wells & Co., 1878. 5 + 239 p. il. D. cl., \$1.50.

Ledyard, Hope, and others. Two wide-awake dolls, and other stories. Bost., Lothrop, il. 16°. bds., 35 c.

Linton, Mrs. E. Lynn. Our professor. N. Y., Harper. 5-89 p. Tt. (Harper's half-hour ser.,

no. 87.) pap., 15 c.

A half-German, half-Italian professor is the subject of this vivacious little sketch, and a small German town the scene of his story, which is romantic and interesting.

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Little faults and their cure, by the author of "Soldier Fritz." Bost., Lothrop, 16°. 50 c.

Luther, Martin. Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her: Kinderlied auf d. Weinachten. Allentown, Pa., Brobst, Diehl and Co., 1878.

18 p. il. sq. O. pap., 10 c.

Macaulay, Thomas Babington (Lord.) History of England from accession of James II. 5v. N. Y., Harper, 1879. 610 p.; 610 p.; 565 p.; 610 p.; 565 p. por. O. cl., \$10.

New edition from new electrotype plates; printed from the last English edition, with all of Macaulay's corrections carefully examined and revised.

Martindale, J. B., ed. United States law directory. N. Y., J. B. Martindale, 1878. 800 p. 8°. shp., \$5.

Merriwether, Magnus. Royal Lowrie; or, a

general misunderstanding. Bost., Lothrop,

1878. 313 p. il. D. cl., \$1.25.
For boys; a humorous story of the misdeeds of several high-spirited boys and girls of the High School; verging on a romance; containing an excellent moral.

Molesworth, Mrs. Grandmother dear: a book for boys and girls; il. by Walter Crane. N. Y., Macmillan, 1878. 262 p. S. cl., \$1.50. About a lovely old grandmother, a charming maiden aunt, and three little English children who go to live in the south of France, and the many strange and amusing adventures which occur to them there.

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Queer people. Bost., Lothrop. il. 4°. bds., 50 c.

Reigart, J. Franklin. History of the first U.S. flag and the patriotism of Betsy Ross [who] originated the first flag of the Union. Harrisburg, Pa., Lane S. Hart, 1878. 6 + 25 p. col. pl. Q. pap., 50 c.

Riggs, Emma E., comp. The mystic key: a poetic fortune teller, with 300 quotations from over 80 standard authors. N. Y., Authors' Pub. Co., 1878. 82 p. T. cl., 75 c.

Sharpe, W: C. [comp.] Seymour and vicinity: historical collections. Seymour, Ct., Record print, [W. C. Sharpe,] 1878. 148 p. O. cl., \$1.50.

Sketches of the early history, prominent buildings, present and past business relations, historical associations.

Shepherd, R: Herne. Bibliography of Ruskin : bibliographical list, arr. in chron. order, of the pub. writings in prose and verse of J: Ruskin, from 1834 to October, 1878. N. Y., Wiley, 1878. 44 p. O. cl., 75 c.

Socrates: a translation of the Apology, Crito, and parts of the Phaedo of Plato. N. Y. C: Scribner's Sons, 1879. 22 + 159 p. 2 il. D. cl., \$1.50.

[New translation of the parts of Plato most essential to an understanding of the personal character and moral position of Socrates; neither a literal version nor a paraphrase; aims to be readable and retain as far as possible whatever is characteristic or original. Notes. Introd. by Prof. W. W. Goodwin 1

Stanley, T: P. History of Jewish church. New West-minster ed. 3 v. N. Y., C: Scribner's Sons, 1878. 8°. cl., \$9.

Telford, Mary Jewett, and others. Mark at Lake Ranche, and other stories. Bost., Lothrop. il. 16°. 75 c. Trotty's pocket. Bost., Lothrop, il. 16°. bds., 25 c.

Van Loon, Mrs. Eliz. The shadow of Hampton Mead. Phil., Peterson, 1878. 17-281 p. D. cl., \$1.50.

By the author of "A heart twice won;" story opens in this country upon a plantation, Hampton Mead, in North Carolina, and is afterwards transferred to England; relates the romances and misfortunes of three families.

Verne, Jules. Dick Sands, the boy captain; tr. by Ellen E. Frewer; il. by H: Meyer. N. Y., C: Scribner's Sons, 1879. 9 + 486 p. O. cl., \$3.

[Narrative of the voyage of a whaler from New Zealand bound for San Francisco; loss of captain and crew, and assumption of command by a boy of fifteen; final wreck of vessel on the African coast, and subsequent adventures of party in the dark continent.]

Ware, W: R., ed. Greek ornament. Bost., S. W. Tilton & Co. 41 p. 12 pl. 8°. \$1.

Wesley, C: Jesus, lover of my soul; il. by Robt. Lewis. Bost., Lothrop. sq. 16°. \$1.

Weston, G: M. The silver question. N. Y., I. S. Homans, 1878. 12 + 293 p. sq. O. cl.,

Embraces every aspect of the silver question, with twen-ty-seven appended papers containing varied and valuable information on the same subject.

White, Lucy Cecil. [Mrs. J: Lillie.] Story of English literature for young readers: Chaucer to Cowper. Bost., Lothrop, 1878. 366

p. il. D. cl., \$1.25.

Sketches of the writings and times of Chaucer, Spenser, Bacon, Shakespeare, Ben Jonson, Addison and Steele, Pope, Dr. Johnson, and other writers, up to the close of the 18th century. With portraits and views of historical places.

Whitney, Mrs. A. D. T., and others. That night at Lower Bay, and other stories. Bost., Lothrop. il. 16°.

75 C.

Wonnberger, C. Fest-gesänge auf Weinachten. 2d ed. Allentown, Pa., Brobst, Diehl & Co., 1878. 8 p. obl. O. pap., 15 c.

Yonge, Charlotte M. Young folks' history of England. Bost., Lothrop. il. 12°. \$1.50.

ORDER LIST.			
AUTHORS' PUB. Co., N. Y. Breckinridge, In dead earnest	History and biog. ser., 5 v		
Brinkley, Woman's thoughts	Yonge, Young folk's hist. of Eng 1.50 MACMILLAN & Co., N. Y. Molesworth, Grandmother dear 1.50 J. B. Martindale, N. Y. Martindale, U. S. law dir 5.00 T. B. Peterson & Bros., Phila. Van Loon, Shadow of Hampton mead 1.50 L. Prang & Co., Boston. Calkins and Diaz, Nat. hist. ser, for children, 6 nos		
Hardy, Return of the native	ROBERTS BROS. Boston. Hale, Mrs. Merriam's scholars. I.00		

PUBLISHERS' PRIORITY CLAIMS.

From the New York Commercial Advertiser for the week ending December 21.

DECEMBER 17.

J. B. Lippincott & Co.:—The Paper Miller's Letty, from the German of W. Heimburg.—At the Capital (In der Residenz), by Adolph Streckfuss.—Castle Hohenwald, by Adolph Streckfuss.—Sir Gibbie, by George MacDonald.—A New Race, from the German.—Heyne Bros., by Adolph Streckfuss.—At the Schillingscourt, by E. Marlitt.

Roberts Bros.:—Sermons of some Questions of the Day, by T. G. Bonney.

DECEMBER 18.

Harper & Bros.:—The Bedouins of the Euphrates Valley, by Lady Anne Blunt.—Through Asiatic Turkey, by Grattan Geary.—Sport and Work on the Nepaul Frontier.—The Wish of his Life.—The Bachelor.—The Flower of the Grass Market.—Paul Faber, Surgeon.

Chas. Scribner's Sons:—Niccolo Machiavelli and his Times, by Prof. Pasquale Villari.—Essays on Art, by J. C. Carr.—Fairy Tales: their Origin and Meaning, with some account of the Dwellers in Fairyland, by J. K.

Bunce.—Histoire Anciennes des Peuples de l'Orient, by M. Van den Berg.

DECEMBER 19.

Roberts Bros.:—Life and Letters of Baroness Bunsen, by Augustus J. C. Hare.

DECEMBER 20.

Estes & Lauriat: —Guizot's History of England. 4 vols.

crown 8°. at \$1 per vol. —Guizot's History of France, from
1789 to 1848. Edited by Madame Guizot Dewitt.

DECEMBER 21.

D. Appleton & Co.:—The Hamiltons, by H. M. Davidson.—The Disturbing Element, by C. M. Yonge.—The Ruins of Uxmal.

Scribner & Welford:—The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P. Cartoons from the collection of "Mr.Punch."

4°.—The Right Hon. John Bright, M.P. Cartoons from the collection of "Mr. Punch."

4°.—Selection of Sermons adapted to the Seasons of the Ecclesiastical Year, from the Parochial and Plain Sermons of John Henry Newman, 12°, cl.

The Jublishers' Weekly.

DECEMBER 28, 1878.

PUBLISHERS are requested to furnish title-page proofs and advance information of books forthcoming, both for entry in the lists and for descriptive mention. An early copy of each book published should be forwarded, to insure correctness in the final entry.

The trade are invited to send "Communications" to the editor on any topic of interest to the trade, and as to which an interchange of opinion is desirable. Also, matter for "Notes and Queries." Notes from librarians will also be gratefully received.

In case of business changes, notification or card should be immediately sent to this office for entry under "Business Notes." New catalogues issued will also be mentioned when forwarded.

"Every man is a debtor to his profession, from the which, as men do of course seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves by way of amends to be a help thereunto."—LORD BACON.

THE SCOPE OF FIRST ANNOUNCE-MENTS.

WE have at hand a letter from a lady translator, who complains that although she announced through the Publishers' Weekly her intention to translate specified recent books of Jules Verne and Henry Greville, other people have made the translations and the publishers have issued them, "disregarding her first announcements." And she asks: "Could not a universal arrangement be made by which translators could, at their own expense, announce in your journal while they were looking for a publisher, and have this as binding as if made by a publisher, and when disregarded have the right to demand compensation from any publisher interfering? In the absence of a statute law, something of this sort is greatly needed. I have wasted two years for want of such protection. . . . One year should be all the time allowed to find a publisher; otherwise they might selfishly announce popular books in too large a number to keep other translators out of the way." Our correspondent also complains—which is doubtless true, though busy publishers cannot always help it - that proposals to translate or ms. translations are often held under consideration so long that others than the first suggestor or translator get the better chance at really marketable books, on which there is no other kind

We quote the letter at length, because, although in the light of practical experience it answers itself, it gives opportunity to lay bare the difficulty which is at the root of many confusions and much waste to the trade as well as

to aspiring translators. Non-copyright books, English or foreign, are not as yet private property, and they are subject to a literary communism which is quite as bothersome in its actual workings as communism in general would be. A right of ownership is the only source of authoritative possession, and that right proceeds only from the original producer, the author, American, English, or foreign. The publisher who takes possession and the translator who tries to are on the same basis, which is no basis at all. It is not possible to legislate a system of "courtesy" law, because there is no original source of title on the one hand, and no court of final appeal as to disputed titles on the other. Any such system breaks down the first time it is called in question, and it is for this reason that "the courtesy of the trade" could never be defined and can never be authoritatively appealed to. Priority claims of "first announcements" are simply a means for leading houses to acquaint each other with their possible intentions, as a basis of prevention against several undertaking the same work at once. One of the daily papers the other day expressed surprise that the leading publishers should all announce the same book-a surprise natural enough until the matter is understood.

But to return to our translator. The translators labor under the same difficulty as the publishers, with the added disadvantage that they have had no means of finding out what each other may be doing. We have offered the use of our announcement columns for this purpose, but they have so far been little used. For the most part, to tell the truth, the translators prefer to take the chances of stealing a march on each other rather than to make the necessary precaution against working to waste, by corresponding with each other, as they might do through this means.

But, in both cases, it would be entirely unjust—more unjust than the present injustice—if, as our correspondent suggests, any one could by publication of intention hold the right of publication or translation against all others. It would be simply an outrage. The translators who have made arrangements with a foreign author, or who have first "discovered" a foreign author, are certainly entitled to first consideration, and this they usually get. No "courtesy" or private law can safely go further.

This matter will never be on a definite or entirely satisfactory basis until international copyright gives a legal origin of title. Sooner or later this will be seen to be to the advantage of publishers as well as of all others; but, it must be added, this cannot be satisfactorily reached until certain difficulties connected with manufacturing receive solution.

Some of the press despatches speak of the House Committee's postal bill as having been replaced by that of Mr. Giddings. It was Mr. Giddings who introduced the bill we discussed in our last issue, essentially that of the Executive Committee of the Postal Conference.

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT: A CASE IN POINT.

PERHAPS unanimity among American publishers in favor of an international copyright law is not very far off. Here is a case in point—the story of Mrs. Brassey's "Cruise of the Sunbeam," which we tell substantially as Messrs. Henry Holt & Co. tell it to us.

Several publishers announced the book before they did, and were in communication with the author and English publishers. The English publishers refused to sell duplicate cuts at any price, and demanded a price for copies in sheets that prevented any publisher negotiating from taking hold of it. After the negotiators had withdrawn, Messrs. Holt sent an offer of five shillings each for fifteen hundred copies in sheets. Had the offer been accepted, the retail price on publication would have been from \$4 to \$5. The offer was declined, however. Thereupon Messrs. Holt picked out the most characteristic of the less expensive cuts, had them engraved and a map prepared here, and brought out an edition at \$3.50. They explained the circumstances to Mrs. Brassey, told her that she should have a third of their profits, received in response assurances of entire satisfaction with their course and the handsome compliments from the English press in the matter which our readers have seen extensively copied here.

After a time, however, it became plain that these gentlemen, at a risk which had deterred some pretty bold men. had assured a good market for the book. Thereupon the persons in England who had refused to sell duplicate cuts and maps at any price accepted an offer from Canada for a set, and of course this market has just been supplied with an edition containing all of the original cuts (however printed) at \$3. Thereupon Messrs. Holt promptly reduce their price to \$1.50 retail, which gives no profit to any one, and not only their and the Canadian publisher's returns, but the author's too, disappear.

The practical question here is: Whom did the absence of an international copyright law benefit? Would not everybody have been better off with it? We are glad to state that our most prominent publishers are now considering this question carefully.

PERSONAL NOTES.

MR. J. G. CUPPLES, long connected with A. Williams & Co., Boston, is now a member of the firm.

MR. WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE, of Eyre & Spottiswoode, the newly-elected President of the Royal Society, having resigned the office of Secretary to the Royal Institution, it is proposed that, in recognition of his valuable services, the members shall subscribe for a portrait bust, to be presented to the Royal Institution.

RECENT POSTAL DECISIONS.

THE "MISSIONARY HERALD" CASE.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, December 19, 1878.

Hon. David M. Key, Postmaster-General.

SIR: In answer to your letter of the 4th inst., in regard to the postage to be charged in the case of the *Missionary Herald* when mailed at the post-office in Brookline to subscribers in Boston, I have the honor to reply:

The facts appear to be as follows: The publication office of this paper is in Boston. Mr. Wing, a newsdealer in Brookline, which is outside the Boston post-office, is the owner of the subscription list of the paper as to Boston and the adjacent towns, by purchase. All copies of the paper belonging to subscribers in Boston are sent to him at Brookline, and the distribution takes place under his immediate direction.

The inquiry is whether such papers are to be mailed at pound rates as claimed by Mr. Wing, or whether they are to be charged individually at the rate of one cent a copy

vidually at the rate of one cent a copy.

The 5th section of the act of June 23d, 1874 declares "that on and after the first day of January, eighteen hundred and seventy-five, all newspapers and periodical publications mailed from a known office of publication or news agency, and addressed to regular subscribers or news agents, postage shall be charged at the following rates: On newspapers and periodical publications issued weekly and more frequently than once a week two cents for each pound or fraction thereof, and on those issued less frequently than once a week three cents for each pound or fraction thereof."

The Missionary Herald is a paper which is published less often than once a week.

It is further provided by section 3872 of the Revised Statutes: "The rate of postage on newspapers, excepting weeklies, periodicals not exceeding two ounces in weight, and circulars, when the same are deposited in a letter-carrier office for delivery by the office or its carriers, shall be uniform at one cent each."

These two provisions of law are to be construed together. To a certain extent the section of the Revised Statutes limits the effect of the act, and must be considered as providing that where newspapers are deposited in an office within the same post-office district within which the subscribers live they are to be charged at the rate of one cent a copy. This is the appropriate meaning, in this connection, of the words "letter-carrier office."

If, therefore, the *Herald* were mailed at the Boston post-office for delivery to subscribers in Boston, one cent postage would have to be paid.

It appears, however, by the facts as presented, that although the actual office of publication is in Boston, the person who owns the right to supply subscribers in that city resides outside of the same, and has the copies sent to him for distribution. If he does this, there is no suggestion that it is not done in good faith, or that there is a pretence of ownership or purchase merely, or that Mr. Wing is simply an agent of the publishers.

Without considering what the law might be in such a case, as the case now presented makes Mr. Wing the actual owner of the subscriptions in Boston and the towns around that city, the papers being sent to him at Brookline,

his place of business, and mailed by him from there to subscribers in other postal districts, the mere fact that the paper is actually printed and published and sent to him outside of the Boston post-office district does not seem to me to present any reason why the publication may not be distributed by him at pound rates.

I answer, as you suggest, with promptness, in order that, if you should deem this condition of the law one that requires attention from Congress, you may act accordingly.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,
(Signed) Chas. Devens,
Attorney-General.

TYPE-WRITER LETTERS.

Post-Office Department, Washington, December 20, 1878.

Andrew H H. Dawson, Esq., New York City :

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, without date, in which you submit an argument calling in question the correctness of a former ruling of this Department, respecting mail matter produced by means of the type-writer. The subject is one of great moment both to the Department and to the business public, and hence has been given careful consideration; but until additional legislation is granted by Congress I am constrained to adhere to the ruling heretofore made, and to decide that matter produced by the type-writer is matter to which no specific rate of postage, under section 3903 of the Revised Statutes, is assigned.

The term "printed matter" as used in the statute of 1825, which was the first general codification of the laws relating to classification of mail matter and rates of postage thereon, meant

matter produced from movable type.

Lithography is a species of printing, but until Congress expressly accorded the privilege of third-class rates to not only printed but lithographic circulars in the act of 1845, the latter were not regarded as within the legal meaning of the term "printed matter."

The act of February 27th, 1861, admitted to

The act of February 27th, 1861, admitted to the third-class rates photographic prints. Since that time Congress has made no further addition, nor has it defined in general language the

term " printed matter."

If the matter were open to any doubt in my mind, I should still hold the productions of the type-writer subject to the letter rate of postage, as the general use which might be made of the process would very seriously affect the revenues of this Department, under the universal construction which you seek to give it.

Very respectfully, (Signed)

D. M. KEY, Postmaster-General.

FORTHCOMING BOOKS ON MUSIC.

The following are among the chief of the new works to be published in London, England, on music and musicians, in the course of the forthcoming season: Mr. W. Reeves will issue a translation by E. Hill of Moritz Karowski's "Life and Letters of Frederick Chopin;" a translation from the same pen of Dr. Ludwig Nohl's "Beethoven depicted by his Contemporaries;" the Musical Standard's "Series of Organ Compositions;" a translation of Alger's "Robert Schumann and his

Contemporaries;" the "Law of Organs and Organists in Parish Churches," with a chapter on the piano-forte three years' system; Mrs. Fanny Raymond Ritter's "Some Famous Songs;" Mr. John Broadhouse's "Concise Manual of Orchestration and Instrumentation" and his "Spohr and Paganini. a Contrast and a Parallel;" and Mr. Whittingham's "The Major and Minor Scales." Messrs. Trübner & Co. will issue the "Philosophy of Music" (the title has already been taken by Mr. Bernhard for his excellent and popular work), a popular exposition of the general theory of the art as based on the researches of Helmholtz, by Dr. William Pike, F.R.S. Messrs. Hansard have issued Mr. Hullah's "Report on Musical Education." Messrs. Ashdown & Parry will issue a second edition of the Rev. R. Brown-Borthwick's "Life of Stephen Heller." Messrs. Macmillan will issue the remaining quarterly parts of Mr. Grove's "Dictionary of Music and Musicians." And Mesers. Novello will issue Dr. Bridge's "Double Counterpoint and Canon," Mr. King Hall's "The Harmonium," Mr. Randegger's "Singing," Mr. Pauer's "Musical Form" and "History of Music," the Rev. J. Troutbeck's "Church Choir Training," Mr. Berthold Tour's "The Violin," and Mr. Edgar Brinsmead's "General History of Piano-Forte Manufacture."-Music Trade Review.

THE AMERICAN BOOK EXHIBIT AT PARIS.

In the Tribune of December 21st, there is a Paris letter "from an occasional correspondent," dated November 10th, devoted exclusively to American publishers at the Exposition. tone, chiefly satiric, is decidedly perplexing. We quote what the writer has to say as to international copyright. He takes as his text the prefatory remarks in the catalogue bearing on this subject: "Considering the extent to which American publishers are dependent upon foreign authors, and the absence of an international copyright law, their appearance here, taken in connection with the reception accorded them, must be regarded as a successful experiment. The statement [in the catalogue] must be accepted, if accepted at all, as disposing of a widespread misapprehension to the effect that the American publisher never pays the foreign author unless induced to do so by purely business considerations, such as the securing of advance sheets. The Harpers make an independent statement upon the same subject. They say that 'despite the absence of international copyright the house pays large sums to foreign authors, as much as \$10,000 having been paid on a single book, though this royalty gives no protection.' It only secures advance sheets, and thereby enables the contracting publisher to be the first to enter the American market. It is also to be borne in mind that on many of the foreign books published in the United States nothing more is realized than a reasonable return for the outlay and risk. The publisher could not afford to pay a royalty, and in many cases none would accrue to the author even if the publisher entered into the usual contract with him. By 'usual contract' I mean not as stated in the catalogue, a 'copyright' payment of ten per cent on the retail prices for all sales, but a similar payment upon all sales over and above a certain number of copies reserved by the publisher as at least a partial return for his actual outlay. It would, I think, occasionally happen that the sale of the foreign book would cease before the publisher's shelves had been cleared of the edition in which the author

has no direct interest.

"These statements are made for the purpose of showing the error contained in the common remark that what is worth republishing is worth paying for. If it had to be paid for, it would very often not be republished. At the same time, in view of the interests of honorable publishers and of authors, both American and foreign, there can be no difference of candid opinion-whatever may be the 'diversity of sentiment'-as to the eminent desirability of an international copyright law. I think, further, that the American publishers would have strengthened the position taken in the catalogue, based, as it is, upon a usage that is not generally known to exist, if they had stated precisely the number of cases in which they have paid a royalty to a foreign author. I have reason for believing that an exhibit of the kind would have a decided tendency toward silencing the reproaches of those who insist upon regarding the American publisher as an individual who grows fat upon the unpaid fruit of foreign brains. That there is some ground for these reproaches is beyond a doubt, and it would be well to distribute them where they rightly belong. No opportunity could have been better than the holding of an International Exposition."

JOURNALISTIC NOTES.

ONE of the several new features which will appear during the next year in *The Literary World*, whose holiday number is before us, will be a series of "Short Studies of American Authors," by Mr. T. W. Higginson. These papers will be both critical and descriptive, but their subjects will not be announced in advance.

The magazines published by D. Appleton & Co. take a "new departure" with the new year. Appletons' Journal, still a monthly, will devote its attention to topics grave rather than gay, striving to occupy such a place as the more influential shilling magazines hold in England. It will include the more literary articles of the Popular Science, Supplement, which will otherwise be consolidated into the Popular Science Monthly itself, now made a 16-page form larger. The North American Review, which has been very successful under Mr. Thorndike Rice's management, becomes a monthly.

MR. F. B. PERKINS, who is one of the brightest of literary workers and has the widest possible experience, is the editor and a joint proprietor of a new Boston weekly, The Saturday Magazine. It is to be an "electrified eclectic, giving some of its space to original matter, and presenting the freshest things in the brightest way. "It means," says its conductor, "to be agreeable, useful, cleanly, and honorable; a fountain of pleasant thoughts and fresh knowledge, and a helper of all that is good. It greets you kindly, and expects what it deserves." Those who want a capital eclectic will be safe in subscribing to it; they should send \$3.50 to II Bromfield Street, Boston. The new journal is of 32 pages, large octavo size. We wish it abundant success.

LITERARY AND TRADE NOTES.

WALTER BAGEHOT'S "Literary Studies," as edited by R. H. Horne, is ready in London.

LYNCH, COLE & MEEHAN have just issued a copy-book for the Irish language with characters and combinations printed on every page.

THE Scientific American Catalogue, published by Munn & Co., contains a subject-index to valuable papers contained in the Scientific American supplements for 1879.

Andre Theuriet, Gustave Droz, and Emile Zola, all of whose works have lately been presented to the American public, are, it is said, to receive the Cross of the Legion of Honor.

THE Hibbert Lectures on the "Origin and Growth of Religion," delivered during the summer by Prof. Max Müller in the Chapter House, Westminster, are nearly ready for publication.

THE Christmas number of the Bibliographie de la France is a handsome issue of 308 pages, of which 306 are taken up by publishers' advertisements—one by the title-page, and one by an index to the advertisers!

A NEW work on Central Asia is promised from the pen of Mr. D. C. Boulger, author of the "Life of Yakoob Beg of Kashgar." The title will be "England and Russia in Central Asia," and it will aim at placing the events of the last three years in a clear light before the English reader.

Among new historical works announced by Messrs. Longmans, are a work on ancient history by Professor Geo. Rawlinson, "History of Ancient Egypt," in 2 vols. 8vo; "Modern France," by Oscar Browning, M.A.; "A Short History of Greek Classical Literature," by the Rev. J. P. Mahaffy, M.A.; and "A Short History of Latin Classical Literature," by G. A. Simcox, M.A.

On the night of the 26th inst. a fire broke out in the building of which the Catholic Publication Society occupies the store and first floor. The damage caused by water is serious, amounting to between \$25,000 and \$50,000. The firemen tried to protect the books from the water by covering the entire stock with heavy cloth, but the water ran in streams on the floor and in many places the weight broke down the ceiling. J. A. McGee, who occupies the greater part of the adjoining building, sustains a loss of about \$700, by water and partly by fire.

PROF. T. C. MURRAY, of the American Philological Association at Baltimore, calls the attention of authors and contributors to that society to the fact that he is preparing a complete index to its "Proceedings and Transactions," and has the author-index nearly ready for the press. As in the preparation of the subject-index he must rely on the authors of the papers, he desires contributors to send him a full list of articles to which they desire especial attention, and also requests them to give a brief note, not exceeding five lines in print, stating the particular point and purport of each article. The preparation of an index to the principal philological papers in American periodicals is also contemplated by him.

W. J. STONEHILL, correspondent and contributor to several prominent printers' and

stationers' trade organs of this country and England, is about to publish a fortnightly, to be called The British and Colonial Printer and Stationer and Newspaper Press Record. It will be the aim of this new journal to discuss from a professional and technical standpoint all important questions pertaining to the paper and printing trades. Mr. Stonehill may be addressed 5 Ludgate Circus Buildings, London, E. C.

D. APPLETON & Co. have just issued "The Model Copy Books," in six numbers, with Goodman's feature—sliding copies. By a simple device the copies, which are printed upon separate slips, are arranged with a movable attachment, by which they are adjusted so as to be directly before the eye of the pupil at all points of his progress. It enables him, also, to keep his own faults concealed, with perfect models constantly in view for imitation. Every experienced teacher knows the advantage of the slip-copy, but its practical application has never before been successfully accomplished. The price is \$1.20 per dozen.

BUSINESS NOTES.

BLAIR, NEB.—C. L. Gano, bookseller, stationer, etc., has gone out of business.

CLINTON, ONT.—Dingman & Humble have succeeded to the book and stationery business of J. A. Snell.

NEW YORK CITY.—Tousey & Small, publishers, have dissolved partnership, and the business will be continued by Franklin Tousey.

BOOKS WANTED.

G. S. WOOLMAN, 116 FULTON ST., N. Y. Pritchard's Infusoria. Ed. 1861. State condition and price. B. F. S., Box 4295, N. Y.

Copy of Publishers' Weekly dated Jan. 30, '73.

"March 13, '75.
Feb. 10, '77.

Trade Circular, Nov., 1865.

CHAS. L. WOODWARD, 78 NASSAU ST., N. Y. Ripley's History of Mexican War.

BOOKS FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.

A. S. CLARK, 66 Nassau St., N. Y., dealer in second-hand school-books. Back numbers of 56,789 differ-ent periodicals for sale cheap.

BUSINESS WANTED.

WANTED to purchase, a good book and stationery store situated not far from New York city. Business must be established, and terms low. Address, with full particulars, C. B. A., care "Pub. Weekly."

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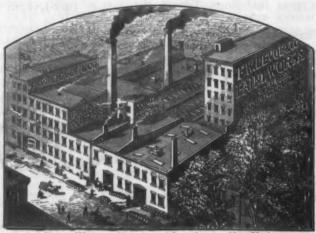
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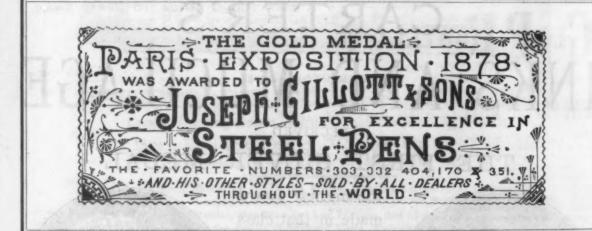
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